

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 04359 01 OF 02 021929Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /015 W
-----055659 022011Z /63
R 021855Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7744

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 BRASILIA 4359

FOR ARA/ECA-MR. ZIMMERMANN

EO 11652 NA
TAGS ASIG
SUBJECT: INSPECTION RECOMMENDATIONS

REF: ZIMMERMANN LETTER OF MAY 18, 1978 TO DCM

1. MY FIRST DAY ON THE JOB WAS MAY 30, AND SINCE THE QUESTIONS
RAISED IN PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 2 OF YOUR LETTER REQUIRE CAREFUL CONSIDER-
ATION, I CANNOT RESPOND TO THEM BY THE JUNE 1 DEADLINE. A
RESPONSE WILL BE FORTHCOMING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. THE FOLLOWING ARE RESPONSES TO THE REMAINING RECOMMENDATIONS:
7.1E-9: RECORDS OF EXPENDABLE SUPPLIES ARE UP-TO-DATE. HOUSEHOLD
RESIDENCE INVENTORIES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED FOR ALL BUT 5 OF THE
97 RESIDENCES AND RECONCILED TO THE NON-EXPENDABLE SUPPLY RECORDS.
THE UP-DATE OF THE 1977 INVENTORIES OF THE CHANCERY, THE WAREHOUSE,
THREE HOUSES AND TWO APARTMENTS IS IN PROGRESS. COMPLETION OF THESE
INVENTORIES AND THEIR RECONCILIATION SHOULD BE FINISHED BY JULY
31, 1978. THE PREVIOUS TARGET DATE OF APRIL 30, 1978 WAS NOT MET
DUE TO ABSENCE OF THE SENIOR GSO SINCE FEBRUARY AND THE VISIT OF
PRESIDENT CARTER; THE PREPARATIONS
FOR WHICH DISRUPTED NORMAL ACTIVITIES FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD
OF TIME: UPON HIS ARRIVAL IN JANUARY 1978, NEWLY ASSIGNED GSO
RICHARD HARTMAN IMMEDIATELY BEGAN THIS PROCESS IN EARNEST AND HAS
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MADE GREAT PROGRESS IN SPITE OF SHORTAGES OF PERSONNEL AND DIS-
RUPTIONS. THE EMBASSY FIRMLY INTENDS TO HAVE ALL PROPERTY RECORDS
UP-TO-DATE AS EARLY AS HUMANLY POSSIBLE.

7.1E-14: THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE CURRENT NUMBER OF MOTOR
VEHICLES IN THE FLEET IS THE MINIMUM NUMBER NEEDED TO MEET OPERATING
REQUIREMENTS, GIVEN THE DIFFICULTIES IN MAINTAINING VEHICLES HERE.

EVEN WITH THE PRESENT NUMBER OF VEHICLES, ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL REGULARLY USE THEIR PERSONAL VEHICLES ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS DUE TO THE UNAVAILABILITY OF OFFICIAL VEHICLES WHEN NEEDED. DURING THE PAST TEN MONTHS, ON AVERAGE, AT LEAST TWO VEHICLES HAVE BEEN OUT OF SERVICE PENDING RECEIPT OF PARTS FROM THE UNITED STATES. A REVIEW OF THE FLEET MILEAGE RECORDS FOR THE PAST TEN MONTHS (AUGUST-MAY) SHOWS AN AVERAGE USAGE OF 1488 MILES PER MONTH, OR 12 MILES LESS THAN THE WORLDWIDE AVERAGE OF 1500 MILES PER MONTH, A DIFFERENCE OF ONE-TENTH OF ONE PERCENT. EMBASSY ALSO WISHES TO POINT OUT INSPECTORS ERRED IN THEIR ANALYSIS OF THE RATIO OF STATE EMPLOYEES TO THE NUMBER OF VEHICLES. THERE ARE 62 STATE EMPLOYEES POSTED TO BRASILIA, NOT 49 AS INDICATED BY THE INSPECTORS. THUS THE EMBASSY IS VIRTUALLY IN LINE WITH THE WORLDWIDE NORM OF ONE CAR PER THREE EMPLOYEES. IN ADDITION, THE EMBASSY MUST PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION FOR AN EIGHT-MAN MSG DETACHMENT.

THERE IS NO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE EMBASSY IN BRASILIA.

IN VIEW OF THE LACK OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND THE EXTREMELY POOR REPAIR SERVICES AVAILABLE AT THIS POST, WE NEED MORE RATHER THAN FEWER CARS.

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /015 W
-----056117 022010Z /63

R 021855Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7745

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7.1E-15: BOTH THE CAR AND THE DRIVER FORMERLY ASSIGNED FOR THE OFFICIAL USE OF THE PREVIOUS AMBASSADOR'S WIFE HAVE BEEN RETURNED TO THE MOTOR POOL. THE DRIVER'S POSITION HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM THE PROGRAM ALLOTMENT TO THE FAAS ALLOTMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT (ARA/MGT).

7.1H-1: A COMPREHENSIVE SECURITY SURVEY OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, BRASILIA, HAS BEEN CONDUCTED AND THE SURVEY REPORT WAS SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT ON FEBRUARY 17, 1978.

7.1H-2: THE PRINCIPAL OFFICERS AT RIO DE JANEIRO AND SAO PAULO HAVE DISPENSED WITH THE SECURITY FOLLOW CAR. AN ARMED AGENT NOW RIDES IN THE FRONT SEAT OF THE PRINCIPAL OFFICER'S OFFICIAL VEHICLE.

ALTHOUGH TERRORISM IS NOT A SERIOUS THREAT AT THIS TIME, THE LOCAL SECURITY AUTHORITIES PROVIDE THE AMBASSADOR WITH A FOUR-MAN SECURITY DETAIL. TWO ARMED AGENTS (WHO ALTERNATE EACH DAY) ACCOMPANY THE AMBASSADOR ON ALL MOVES, THUS NECESSITATING THE USE OF A FOLLOW CAR. THE FOLLOW CAR, IN THE OPINION OF THE RSO, PROVIDES THE AMBASSADOR AND HIS AGENTS WITH THE FLEXIBILITY AND ADDITIONAL MOBILITY NEEDED TO THWART OR DEFLECT ANY ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OR SAFETY OF THE AMBASSADOR: WITH THE ARRIVAL OF AMB. SAYRE THE EMBASSY IS AGAIN EXAMINING THE QUESTION OF THE FOLLOW CAR; AND WILL DISPENSE WITH IT IF SECURITY SITUATION WARRANTS.

7.1H-5: THE HINGES ON THE MAIN GATE DO NOT ADEQUATELY SUPPORT THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WEIGHT OF THE GATE ITSELF. TO CORRECT THIS DEFECT, THE GATE IS BEING LOWERED AND FITTED WITH ROLLERS TO OPERATE ON STEEL RUNNERS EMBEDDED IN THE GROUND. TO STRENGTHEN THE PERIMETER FENCE, THE CONCRETE BASE WILL BE RAISED TO ENCASE THE HORIZONTAL BARS AT LEAST FIVE INCHES WHICH WILL GIVE THE FENCE THE RIGIDITY NEEDED. RESURFACING THE GARAGE AREA WAS RECENTLY COMPLETED. HOWEVER, THE SECOND REAR GATE WILL STILL BE REQUIRED FOR ACCESS TO AN AREA OF THE CHANCERY COMPOUND WHICH IS INACCESSIBLE BY THE OTHER REAR GATE OR BY THE FRONT GATE. THIS AREA MUST HAVE ACCESS FOR BOTH PRESENT AND FUTURE USES, WHICH WILL INCLUDE A WAREHOUSE AND ALL THE MAINTENANCE SHOPS. FURTHERMORE, THE GATE, WHEN PROPERLY SECURED, PROVIDES THE SAME SECURITY AS THE WALL. THE EMBASSY, THEREFORE, DOES NOT INTEND TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE THIS GATE.

THE RSO HAS REQUESTED A/SY AND A/FBO TO DESIGN APPROPRIATE CONTROLS FOR THE CHANCERY LOBBY. WHEN THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS ARE RECEIVED, WE WILL IMMEDIATELY INSTALL THESE CONTROLS.

9.5F-18: THE CONGEN HAS DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF ORGANIZING AND OPERATING A JOINT MOTOR POOL WITH THE OTHER AGENCIES. THE ICA (PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER) IS OPPOSED TO THE CONCEPT. BECAUSE OF ICA SPECIALIZED OPERATIONS, HE FEELS THAT A JOINT MOTOR POOL WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE ACTIVITIES OF HIS AGENCY. RIO ICA PROGRAM

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MING INVOLVES HEAVY UNFORESEEN DEMANDS FOR TRANSPORTATION OFTEN AFTER WORKING HOURS. THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS HAS A VEHICLE AND A PART-TIME DRIVER WHO COULD NOT BE ASSIGNED FULL TIME TO A JOINT MOTOR POOL OPERATION. ALL OTHER AGENCIES REPRESENTATIVES DRIVE THEIR OWN VEHICLES WHICH, WITHOUT DRIVERS, COULD NOT BE MADE PART OF A JOINT MOTOR POOL OPERATION. THEREFORE, THE EMBASSY HAS DETERMINE
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THAT A JOINT MOTOR POOL IN RIO DE JANEIRO IS NOT FEASIBLE.
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11.1A(2)-3: BECUASE OF HIGH WAGES IN BRAZIL, EMPLOYMENT OF A FULL TIME MANAGER TO RUNN RSSU WOULD RESULT IN GREATLY INCREASED PRICES FOR THE COMMISSARY AND THE CAFETERIA: A COMMISSARY COMMITTEE AND A CAFETERIA COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF RSSU BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE APPOINTED AT THE JUNE 1978 RSSU BOARD MEETING TO OVERSEE THESE OPERATIONS. A STAFF MEMBER IS PRESENTLY LOOKING INTO THE CAFETERIA OPERATIONS AND, WHEN THE RSSU COMMITTEE IS ESTABLISHED WILL BE A LIAISON BETWEEN IT AND THE CAFETERIA. IT IS ALSO PROPOSED TO APPOINT BRAZILIAN EMPLOYEE MEMBERS TO THE CAFETERIA COMMITTEE. IN ADDITION, THE COMPONENT ACTIVITIES OF THE RSSU NOW HAVE A SALARIED MANAGER, WHICH HAS SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED THE AMOUNT OF TIME THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER SPENDS ON RSSU OPERATIONS. THE EMBASSY THUS FEELS THAT IT HAS COMPLIED WITH THIS RECOMMENDATION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BRASIL04359
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780231-0975
Format: TEL
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197806104/aaaadllo.tel
Line Count: 192
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d26d147d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2151001
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INSPECTION RECOMMENDATIONS
TAGS: ASIG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d26d147d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014